Docket No.: 1403-0259P

(PATENT)

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Noriko YAGI et al.

Application No.: 10/726,560

Confirmation No.: 5471

Filed: December 4, 2003

Art Unit: 1733

For: RUBBER COMPOSITION FOR TIRE TREAD

AND PNEUMATIC TIRE USING THE SAME

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (SUBMISSION AFTER NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE BUT PRIOR TO PAYMENT OF THE ISSUE FEE)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

# I. <u>LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION</u>

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-SB08(s), attached hereto.

Application No.: 10/726,560 Docket No.: 1403-0259P II. COPIES X Copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are not included. Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are included. III. **CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE** (Check at least one box) DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE - Some or all of the patents, a. publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO SB08 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy. X b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE - A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows: English Language Abstracts are provided for the four Japanese references attached. П ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT - An English language version of the search c. report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3). OTHER - The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's  $\boxtimes$ consideration. Two Japanese Office Actions are attached. Additionally JP2000-109612-A corresponds to US2001/0009932 and JP2-43233-A corresponds to US 5,115,021.

THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d): After the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance. See the Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

Application No.: 10/726,560 Docket No.: 1403-0259P

## IV. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

(check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that:

	a.	Each	item	of	information	contained	in	the	IDS	was	first	cited	in	any
com	municat	ion fro	n a fo	reig	gn Patent Off	ice in a cou	nte	rpar	t fore	ign a	pplica	tion n	ot r	nore
thar	30 days	prior t	o the	filin	g of this IDS	or								

- b. Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- Detent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

3

### V. <u>PAYMENT OF FEES</u> (check one box)

The required fee is listed on the attached Fee Transmittal.

Application No.: 10/726,560 Docket No.: 1403-0259P

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

17tica. 17cctiffer i, 2007	Dated:	December 4, 2007	Respectfully submitted
----------------------------	--------	------------------	------------------------

Andrew D. Meikle

Registration No.: 32,868# 43, 368

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

Attac	hment(s):
$\boxtimes$	PTO-SB08
$\boxtimes$	Documents
	Foreign Search Report

Fee

Other: Japanese Office Actions (1)